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DDI-1028-68

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: The Community On-Line Intelligence System (COINS)
Experiment

An important project which the DCI must undertake as part of the intelligence information program approved by USIB on 4 April 1968 and forwarded to the President is the Community On-Line Intelligence System (COINS) experiment and the evaluation of the usefulness of this system ^{to} ~~for future use by~~ the intelligence community. The development of the system itself has been under way since late 1965. The test, analysis and evaluation phase is planned to begin on 1 July 1968 and continue for one year.

The Director of the National Security Agency has been requested to assign a manager to operate the system for the period of the balance of the experiment. The manager will be expected to carry out his duties in accordance with instructions which will be issued to him (copy attached hereto).

It is requested that CIA, DIA and NSA designate the managers of their portion of the COINS experiment to act as sub-system managers for the experiment under the general guidance of the manager of the COINS experiment. The Department of State, [NPIC] and NIC are requested to designate similar personnel as appropriate

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to the level of their participation. All are requested to nominate qualified personnel to technical panels, working groups and the like as may be required and requested by the COINS manager.

My designated representative to supervise all aspects of the COINS experiment is of the NIPE staff. He will use the newly formed Intelligence Information Handling Committee, of which he is Chairman, for staff support and will consult the Committee for advice and guidance as appropriate. The manager of the COINS experiment will report to ~~him as~~ my representative ~~(as required)~~.

Periodic reports will be submitted to USIB as the experiment progresses.

Richard Helms

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| <p>Remarks: Would you please give me your reactions to the attached very rough draft which I believe reflects our conversation yesterday and at the same time answers questions raised by Gen. Carter at the USIB meeting today.</p> <p>I am instructed to discuss this proposal with Gen. Carter soonest. If you desire, I can discuss this with you at your earliest convenience.</p> <p>FYI, in his re-write of the Memorandum for the President in response to NSAM 368, the DCI has used the phrase "I expect to achieve 'straight-line' management control."</p> | | | | | |
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